

United States Bankruptcy Court  
Middle District of Pennsylvania

## Voluntary Petition

Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, First, Middle): <b>Machiavello, Sonia,</b>		Name of Joint Debtor (Spouse) (Last, First, Middle):																															
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):		All Other Names used by the Joint Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):																															
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN(if more than one, state all): <b>1588</b>		Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN(if more than one, state all):																															
Street Address of Debtor (No. & Street, City, and State): <b>101 Maria Ct. Dingmans Ferry, PA</b>		Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. & Street, City, and State):																															
ZIP CODE <b>18328</b>		ZIP CODE																															
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business: <b>Pike</b>		County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:																															
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address):		Mailing Address of Joint Debtor (if different from street address):																															
ZIP CODE		ZIP CODE																															
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different from street address above):																																	
ZIP CODE																																	
<b>Type of Debtor</b> (Form of Organization) (Check <b>one</b> box.)	<b>Nature of Business</b> (Check <b>one</b> box)		<b>Chapter of Bankruptcy Code Under Which the Petition is Filed</b> (Check <b>one</b> box)																														
	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Business <input type="checkbox"/> Single Asset Real Estate as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B) <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> Stockbroker <input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Other																																
	<b>Tax-Exempt Entity</b> (Check box, if applicable)		<b>Nature of Debts</b> (Check <b>one</b> box)																														
	<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a tax-exempt organization under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code.)																																
<b>Filing Fee</b> (Check <b>one</b> box)																																	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Filing Fee attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration certifying that the debtor is unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b) See Official Form 3A.  <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration. See Official Form 3B.																																	
<b>Chapter 11 Debtors</b>																																	
<b>Check one box:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is not a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D).																																	
<b>Check if:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor's aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,190,000.																																	
<b>Check all applicable boxes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> A plan is being filed with this petition <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).																																	
<b>Statistical/Administrative Information</b>																																	
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors.																																	
<b>THIS SPACE IS FOR COURT USE ONLY</b>																																	
<b>Estimated Number of Creditors</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 10%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-</td> <td>50-</td> <td>100-</td> <td>200-</td> <td>1,000-</td> <td>5,001-</td> <td>10,001-</td> <td>25,001-</td> <td>50,001-</td> <td>Over</td> </tr> <tr> <td>49</td> <td>99</td> <td>199</td> <td>999</td> <td>5,000</td> <td>10,000</td> <td>25,000</td> <td>50,000</td> <td>100,000</td> <td>100,000</td> </tr> </table>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1-	50-	100-	200-	1,000-	5,001-	10,001-	25,001-	50,001-	Over	49	99	199	999	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000	100,000
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<b>Estimated Assets</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 10%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 10%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 10%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0 to \$50,000</td> <td>\$50,001 to \$100,000</td> <td>\$100,001 to \$500,000</td> <td>\$500,001 to \$1 million</td> <td>\$1,000,001 to \$10 million</td> <td>\$10,000,001 to \$50 million</td> <td>\$50,000,001 to \$100 million</td> <td>\$100,000,001 to \$500 million</td> <td>\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion</td> <td>More than \$1 billion</td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0 to \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$500,001 to \$1 million	\$1,000,001 to \$10 million	\$10,000,001 to \$50 million	\$50,000,001 to \$100 million	\$100,000,001 to \$500 million	\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion	More than \$1 billion										
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<b>Voluntary Petition</b> (This page must be completed and filed in every case)		Name of Debtor(s): <b>Sonia Machiavello</b>	
<b>All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8 Years</b> (If more than two, attach additional sheet.)			
Location Where Filed: <b>NONE</b>	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
Location Where Filed:	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
<b>Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner or Affiliate of this Debtor</b> (If more than one, attach additional sheet)			
Name of Debtor: <b>NONE</b>	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
District:	Relationship:	Judge:	
<b>Exhibit A</b> (To be completed if debtor is required to file periodic reports (e.g., forms 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is requesting relief under chapter 11.)		<b>Exhibit B</b> (To be completed if debtor is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts)  I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, declare that I have informed the petitioner that [he or she] may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each such chapter. I further certify that I have delivered to the debtor the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A is attached and made a part of this petition.		<b>X /s Mark E. Moulton</b> Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s) <b>Mark E. Moulton, Esquire</b> <b>4/3/2009</b> Date <b>89064</b>	
<b>Exhibit C</b>			
Does the debtor own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to public health or safety?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
<b>Exhibit D</b>			
(To be completed by every individual debtor. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and attach a separate Exhibit D.)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D completed and signed by the debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.			
If this is a joint petition:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D also completed and signed by the joint debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.			
<b>Information Regarding the Debtor - Venue</b> (Check any applicable box)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place of business, or principal assets in this District for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other District.  <input type="checkbox"/> There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership pending in this District.  <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place of business or principal assets in the United States in this District, or has no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a defendant in an action or proceeding [in a federal or state court] in this District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the relief sought in this District.			
<b>Certification by a Debtor Who Resides as a Tenant of Residential Property</b> (Check all applicable boxes.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debtor's residence. (If box checked, complete the following).			
(Name of landlord that obtained judgment)			
(Address of landlord)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are circumstances under which the debtor would be permitted to cure the entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession, after the judgment for possession was entered, and			
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor has included in this petition the deposit with the court of any rent that would become due during the 30-day period after the filing of the petition.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certification. (11 U.S.C. § 362(l)).			

<b>Voluntary Petition</b> (This page must be completed and filed in every case)		Name of Debtor(s): <b>Sonia Machiavello</b>
<b>Signatures</b>		
<b>Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)</b> <p>I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.</p> <p>[If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12 or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.</p> <p>[If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).</p> <p>I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.</p> <p><b>X s/ Sonia Machiavello</b>  Signature of Debtor <b>Sonia Machiavello</b></p> <p><b>X Not Applicable</b>  Signature of Joint Debtor</p> <p>Telephone Number (If not represented by attorney) <b>4/3/2009</b>  Date</p>		<b>Signature of a Foreign Representative</b> <p>I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.</p> <p>(Check only <b>one</b> box.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of Title 11, United States Code. Certified Copies of the documents required by § 1515 of title 11 are attached.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1511, I request relief in accordance with the Chapter of title 11 specified in the petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.</p> <p><b>X Not Applicable</b>  (Signature of Foreign Representative)</p> <p>(Printed Name of Foreign Representative)</p> <p>Date</p>
Signature of Attorney <p><b>X /s Mark E. Moulton</b>  Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)</p> <p><b>Mark E. Moulton, Esquire Bar No. 89064</b>  Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s) / Bar No.</p> <p><b>Moulton &amp; Moulton, PC</b>  Firm Name</p> <p><b>693 State Route 739, Ste#1 Lords Valley, PA 18428</b>  Address</p> <p><b>570-775-9525</b>      <b>570-775-0676</b>  Telephone Number</p> <p><b>4/3/2009</b>  Date</p> <p>*In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.</p>		<b>Signature of Non-Attorney Petition Preparer</b> <p>I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.</p> <p><b>Not Applicable</b>  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer</p> <p>Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)</p> <p>Address</p>
Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership) <p>I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.</p> <p>The debtor requests the relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.</p> <p><b>X Not Applicable</b>  Signature of Authorized Individual</p> <p>Printed Name of Authorized Individual</p> <p>Title of Authorized Individual</p> <p>Date</p>		<b>X Not Applicable</b> Date Signature of bankruptcy petition preparer or officer, principal, responsible person, or partner whose Social-Security number is provided above. Names and Social-Security numbers of all other individuals who prepared or assisted in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual. If more than one person prepared this document, attach to the appropriate official form for each person. <p><i>A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or both. 11 U.S.C. § 110; 18 U.S.C. § 156.</i></p>

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
Middle District of Pennsylvania

In re: Sonia Machiavello  
Debtor

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT D - INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR'S STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH  
CREDIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT**

**Warning: You must be able to check truthfully one of the five statements regarding credit counseling listed below. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file a bankruptcy case, and the court can dismiss any case you do file. If that happens, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors will be able to resume collection activities against you. If your case is dismissed and you file another bankruptcy case later, you may be required to pay a second filing fee and you may have to take extra steps to stop creditors' collection activities.**

*Every individual debtor must file this Exhibit D. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and file a separate Exhibit D. Check one of the five statements below and attach any documents as directed.*

1. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, and I have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *Attach a copy of the certificate and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency.*

2. Within the **180 days before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, but I do not have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *You must file a copy of a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to you and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency no later than 15 days after your bankruptcy case is filed.*

3. I certify that I requested credit counseling services from an approved agency but was unable to obtain the services during the five days from the time I made my request, and the following exigent circumstances merit a temporary waiver of the credit counseling requirement so I can file my bankruptcy case now. *[Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.] [Summarize exigent circumstances here.]* \_\_\_\_\_

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If the court is satisfied with the reasons stated in your motion, it will send you an order approving your request. You must still obtain the credit counseling briefing within the first 30 days after you file your bankruptcy case and promptly file a certificate from the agency that provided the briefing, together with a copy of any debt management plan developed through the agency. Any extension of the 30-day deadline can be granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days. A motion for extension must be filed within the 30-day period. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in dismissal of your case. If the court is not satisfied with your reasons for filing your bankruptcy case without first receiving a credit counseling briefing, your case may be dismissed.

4. I am not required to receive a credit counseling briefing because of: *[Check the applicable statement.] [Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.]*

- Incapacity. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as impaired by reason of mental illness or mental deficiency so as to be incapable of realizing and making rational decisions with respect to financial responsibilities.);
- Disability. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as physically impaired to the extent of being unable, after reasonable effort, to participate in a credit counseling briefing in person, by telephone, or through the Internet.);
- Active military duty in a military combat zone.

Official Form 1, Exh. D (10/06) – Cont.

5. The United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator has determined that the credit counseling requirement of 11 U.S.C. § 109(h) does not apply in this district.

**I certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.**

Signature of Debtor: s/ Sonia Machiavello  
Sonia Machiavello

Date: 4/3/2009

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

**NOTICE TO INDIVIDUAL CONSUMER DEBTOR UNDER § 342(b)  
OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

In accordance with § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, this notice: (1) Describes briefly the services available from credit counseling services; (2) Describes briefly the purposes, benefits and costs of the four types of bankruptcy proceedings you may commence; and (3) Informs you about bankruptcy crimes and notifies you that the Attorney General may examine all information you supply in connection with a bankruptcy case. You are cautioned that bankruptcy law is complicated and not easily described. Thus, you may wish to seek the advice of an attorney to learn of your rights and responsibilities should you decide to file a petition. Court employees cannot give you legal advice.

**1. Services Available from Credit Counseling Agencies**

**With limited exceptions, § 109(h) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that all individual debtors who file for bankruptcy relief on or after October 17, 2005, receive a briefing that outlines the available opportunities for credit counseling and provides assistance in performing a budget analysis.** The briefing must be given within 180 days before the bankruptcy filing. The briefing may be provided individually or in a group (including briefings conducted by telephone or on the Internet) and must be provided by a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator. The clerk of the bankruptcy court has a list that you may consult of the approved budget and credit counseling agencies.

**In addition, after filing a bankruptcy case, an individual debtor generally must complete a financial management instructional course before he or she can receive a discharge.** The clerk also has a list of approved financial management instructional courses.

**2. The Four Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code Available to Individual Consumer Debtors**

**Chapter 7: Liquidation (\$245 filing fee, \$39 administrative fee, \$15 trustee surcharge: Total fee \$299)**

1. Chapter 7 is designed for debtors in financial difficulty who do not have the ability to pay their existing debts. Debtors whose debts are primarily consumer debts are subject to a "means test" designed to determine whether the case should be permitted to proceed under chapter 7. If your income is greater than the median income for your state of residence and family size, in some cases, creditors have the right to file a motion requesting that the court dismiss your case under § 707(b) of the Code. It is up to the court to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

2. Under chapter 7, you may claim certain of your property as exempt under governing law. A trustee may have the right to take possession of and sell the remaining property that is not exempt and use the sale proceeds to pay your creditors.

3. The purpose of filing a chapter 7 case is to obtain a discharge of your existing debts. If, however, you are found to have committed certain kinds of improper conduct described in the Bankruptcy Code, the court may deny your discharge and, if it does, the purpose for which you filed the bankruptcy petition will be defeated.

4. Even if you receive a general discharge, some particular debts are not discharged under the law. Therefore, you may still be responsible for most taxes and student loans; debts incurred to pay nondischargeable taxes; domestic support and property settlement obligations; most fines, penalties, forfeitures, and criminal restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; and debts for death or personal injury caused by operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Also, if a creditor can prove that a debt arose from fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, or theft, or from a willful and malicious injury, the bankruptcy court may determine that the debt is not discharged.

**Chapter 13: Repayment of All or Part of the Debts of an Individual with Regular Income (\$235 filing fee, \$39 administrative fee: Total fee \$274)**

1. Chapter 13 is designed for individuals with regular income who would like to pay all or part of their debts in installments over a period of time. You are only eligible for chapter 13 if your debts do not exceed certain dollar amounts set forth in the Bankruptcy Code.

2. Under chapter 13, you must file with the court a plan to repay your creditors all or part of the money that you owe them, using your future earnings. The period allowed by the court to repay your debts may be three years or five years, depending upon your income and other factors. The court must approve your plan before it can take effect.

3. After completing the payments under your plan, your debts are generally discharged except for domestic support obligations; most student loans; certain taxes; most criminal fines and restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; certain debts for acts that caused death or personal injury; and certain long term secured obligations.

**Chapter 11: Reorganization (\$1000 filing fee, \$39 administrative fee: Total fee \$1039)**

Chapter 11 is designed for the reorganization of a business but is also available to consumer debtors. Its provisions are quite complicated, and any decision by an individual to file a chapter 11 petition should be reviewed with an attorney.

**Chapter 12: Family Farmer or Fisherman (\$200 filing fee, \$39 administrative fee: Total fee \$239)**

Chapter 12 is designed to permit family farmers and fishermen to repay their debts over a period of time from future earnings and is similar to chapter 13. The eligibility requirements are restrictive, limiting its use to those whose income arises primarily from a family-owned farm or commercial fishing operation.

**3. Bankruptcy Crimes and Availability of Bankruptcy Papers to Law Enforcement Officials**

A person who knowingly and fraudulently conceals assets or makes a false oath or statement under penalty of perjury, either orally or in writing, in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both. All information supplied by a debtor in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to examination by the Attorney General acting through the Office of the United States Trustee, the Office of the United States Attorney, and other components and employees of the Department of Justice.

**WARNING:** Section 521(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that you promptly file detailed information regarding your creditors, assets, liabilities, income, expenses and general financial condition. Your bankruptcy case may be dismissed if this information is not filed with the court within the time deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the local rules of the court.

**Certificate of Attorney**

I hereby certify that I delivered to the debtor this notice required by § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

---

**Mark E. Moulton, Esquire**

Printed Name of Attorney

---

**/s Mark E. Moulton**

Signature of Attorney

---

**4/3/2009**

Date

Address:

**Moulton & Moulton, PC**  
693 State Route 739, Ste#1  
Lords Valley, PA 18428

**570-775-9525**

**Certificate of the Debtor**

I, the debtor, affirm that I have received and read this notice.

---

**Sonia Machiavello**

Printed Name of Debtor

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**Xs/ Sonia Machiavello**

Sonia Machiavello

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**4/3/2009**

Case No. (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Debtor

Date

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**STATEMENT OF INFORMATION REQUIRED BY 11 U.S.C. § 341**

**INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994, the Office of the United States Bankruptcy Administrator has prepared this information sheet to help you understand some of the possible consequences of filing a bankruptcy petition under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. This information is intended to make you aware of -

- (1) the potential consequences of seeking a discharge in bankruptcy, including the effects on credit history;
- (2) the effect of receiving a discharge of debts in bankruptcy;
- (3) the effect of reaffirming a debt; and
- (4) your ability to file a petition under a different chapter of the Bankruptcy Code.

There are many other provisions of the Bankruptcy Code that may affect your situation. This statement contains only general principles of law and is not a substitute for legal advice. If you have any questions or need further information as to how the bankruptcy laws apply to your specific case, you should consult with your lawyer.

**WHAT IS A DISCHARGE?**

The filing of a chapter 7 petition is designed to result in a discharge of most of the debts you listed in your bankruptcy schedules. A discharge is a court order that says that you do not have to repay your debts, but there are a number of exceptions. Debts which usually may not be discharged in your chapter 7 case include, for example, most taxes, child support, alimony, and student loans; court-ordered fines and restitution; debts obtained through fraud or deception; debts which were not listed in your bankruptcy schedules; and personal injury debts caused by driving while intoxicated or taking drugs. Your discharge may be denied entirely if you, for example, destroy or conceal property; destroy, conceal or falsify records; or make a false oath. Creditors cannot ask you to repay debts which have been discharged. You can only receive a chapter 7 discharge once every eight (8) years.

**WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF A DISCHARGE?**

The fact that you filed bankruptcy can appear on your credit report for as long as 10 years. Thus, filing a bankruptcy petition may affect your ability to obtain credit in the future. Also, you may not be excused from repaying debts that were not listed on your bankruptcy schedules or that you incurred after you filed bankruptcy. There are exceptions to this general statement. See your lawyer if you have questions.

**WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF REAFFIRMING A DEBT?**

After you file your bankruptcy petition, a creditor may ask you to reaffirm a certain debt or you may seek to do so on your own. Reaffirming a debt means that you sign and file with the court a legally enforceable document which states that you promise to repay all or a portion of the debt that may otherwise have been discharged in your bankruptcy case. Reaffirmation agreements must generally be filed with the court sixty (60) days after the first meeting of creditors.

Reaffirmation agreements are strictly voluntary. They are not required by the Bankruptcy Code or other state or federal law. You can voluntarily repay any debt instead of signing a reaffirmation agreement, but there may be valid reasons for wanting to reaffirm a particular debt. This is particularly true when property you wish to retain is collateral for a debt.

Reaffirmation agreements must not impose an undue burden on you or your dependents and must be in your best interest. If you decide to sign a reaffirmation agreement, you may cancel it at any time before the court issues an order of discharge or within sixty (60) days after you filed the reaffirmation agreement with the court, whichever is later.

If you reaffirm a debt and fail to make the payments as required in the reaffirmation agreement, the creditor can take action against you to recover any property that was given as security for the loan and you may remain personally liable for any deficiency. In addition, creditors may seek other remedies, such as garnishment of wages.

## OTHER BANKRUPTCY OPTIONS

You have a choice in deciding what chapter of the Bankruptcy Code will best suit your needs. Even if you have already filed for relief under chapter 7, you may be eligible to convert your case to a different chapter.

Chapter 7 is the liquidation chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. Under chapter 7, a trustee is appointed to collect and sell, if economically feasible, all property you own that is not exempt from these actions.

Chapter 11 is the reorganization chapter most commonly used by businesses, but it is also available to individuals. Creditors vote on whether to accept or reject a plan, which also must be approved by the court. While the debtor normally remains in control of the assets, the court can order the appointment of a trustee to take possession and control of the business.

Chapter 12 offers bankruptcy relief to those who qualify as family farmers. Family farmers must propose a plan to repay their creditors over a three-to-five year period and it must be approved by the court. Plan payments are made through a chapter 12 trustee, who also monitors the debtors' farming operations during the pendency of the plan.

Finally, chapter 13 generally permits individuals to keep their property by repaying creditors out of their future income. Each chapter 13 debtor writes a plan which must be approved by the bankruptcy court. The debtors must pay the chapter 13 trustee the amount set forth in their plan. Debtors receive a discharge after they complete their chapter 13 repayment plan. Chapter 13 is only available to individuals with regular income whose debts do not exceed \$1,000,000 (\$250,000 in unsecured debts and \$750,000 in secured debts).

AGAIN, PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR LAWYER IF YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION OR EXPLANATION, INCLUDING HOW THE BANKRUPTCY LAWS RELATE TO YOUR SPECIFIC CASE.

By signing below, I/we acknowledge that I/we have received a copy of this document, and that I/we have had an opportunity to discuss the information in this document with an attorney of my/our choice.

Date 4/3/2009

s/ Sonia Machiavello  
**Sonia Machiavello**

/s Mark E. Moulton  
**Mark E. Moulton, Esquire**